



PRESS RELEASE

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SELLS MAN SENTENCED TO 8 YEARS IN PRISON FOR SEXUAL ASSAULT

TUCSON, Ariz. - The U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Arizona announced that on September 3, 2004, Nathaniel Fabian Francisco, DOB 1/13/75, a member of the Tohono O'Odham Nation, was sentenced by District Court Judge Frank R. Zapata to eight years in prison after entering a guilty plea in federal district court in Tucson, Ariz. to Sexual Assault with the Use of Force.

Francisco had been charged with Sexual Assault involving force in violation of Title 18, U.S. Code, Sections 1153, 2241(a)(1), and 2246(2)(A). On February 23, 2002, a 40-year-old woman reported to Tohono O'Odham tribal police officers that she was raped in a village in Sells, Ariz.. She said that after her boyfriend had dropped her off at her residence and while attempting to enter her home, the defendant approached her and greeted her. Since she did not recognize him, she turned her back on him. At that time, the defendant grabbed her, forced her against a wall and raped her. While attempting to escape, the victim was raped again. The victim was finally able to kick the defendant to get away.

The investigation in this case was conducted by the FBI and the Tohono O'Odham Police Department. The prosecution is being handled by Raquel Arellano, Assistant U.S. Attorney, District of Arizona, Tucson, Ariz.

CASE NUMBER: CR-02-0987-TUC-FRZ (NFF)
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